



HIGHWAY

www.blackpalfrey.co.uk



March 2015

50th Anniversary 1965-2015

The **Blackpalfrey Motor Club of Kent Ltd (BpMCK)** is a member of the **Motor Sports Association (UK)** and of two Regional Associations, the **ASEMC** and the **ACSMC**. Blackpalfrey is also a partner club in the **Weald Motor Club** consortium. These organisations allow Blackpalfrey members to compete in a wide range of events, for both **classic** and **modern** cars, organised by many other motor clubs all over southern England.

The home of Historic Road Events in the South East

Our quest for a new Entries Secretary for the Hughes Historic Rally came up trumps! Ace navigator, Valerie Hogg has offered to take on the job and, straight away, she has taken the initiative and has the whole thing 'under control' - great! (so, Neil Webb is looking for a navigator for the Clubmans Class {no NatB licence required, just Club Membership} on the Hughes). Many thanks, also, to previous Secretary(s) Colin and Caroline who have helped Valerie to quickly 'learn the ropes'.

We've had some good feedback in our search for new Test Venues and these will be visited in the next few days. Don't stop looking though, we are always searching for new Test venues - if **you** have any ideas....farm tracks, private car parks or roads - in fact, anywhere that you think we could run a Test for a couple of hours, please let us know and we'll go, have a look, and sort out the details with the landowner, whether it's a Company, Council or an individual. Please have a think about possible venues you may know of, or think may be useable - **THANK YOU!**
If anyone wants to help out and get more involved this year please let us know....

And, don't forget, **we always want to hear your news** for inclusion in HIGHWAY (a few words and/or pictures, or a page or two, it's up to you).



Copy for April 2015 HIGHWAY by 26th March please - have YOU got any stories, pics etc for YOUR mag?
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Treasurer: Graham Mayes / John Fowler (Membership and Club Championships - 0208 857 7761)
Tim Adams (Chief Marshal) / Trevor Hawkins (Clothing - 01732 842746) / Andy Gibson (Equipment) / Simon Ingarfield (Trophies)
President: Brian Millen / Vice-President: Andy Gibson

2015 BpMCK Diary Dates

Tues 10th Mar	Blackpalfrey MC	Club Night @ The Plough, Stalisfield Green (OS189/954530)
Sun 15th March	Blackpalfrey MC	Winter Series RegRun 5 - CoC: Peter Boyce
Tues 14th April	Blackpalfrey MC	Club Night @ The Plough, Stalisfield Green (OS189/954530)
Sun 19th April	Blackpalfrey MC	Winter Series RegRun 6 - CoC: tbc

As Blackpalfrey members you can also enter any of the WEALD MC events. Details of WEALD MC and other events will be sent out to all BpMCK members, by email, whenever I receive information from the promoting clubs.

Club Night - Tuesday 10th March @ The Plough, Stalisfield Green

it's a great pub with excellent food and drink and with good access generally from anywhere in mid-Kent. The easiest way to get there is from the Hart Hill turning off the A20 (map ref 939 503), at the bit of dual carriageway just before the A20 drops down to Charing. then carry straight on past The Bowl PH and a mile further on you'll come to The Plough.....**If you have a favourite Pub, somewhere in mid-Kent, let us know the details and we'll see if we can have a Club Night there.....**



John and Tom's February 12-Car RegRun

The fourth round of this year's series of Sunday morning 12-Cars took us to the lanes of North West Kent, starting from the 7 Hotel & Diner on the A224 just north of Sevenoaks. Plotting for both Regularity A and B had been issued ahead of the event, but there was some work to do on the day as not all of the grid references supplied for Reg A were to be used – the ones to use were only issued after signing-on.

This was only the second time Simon and I had entered an event together and, having won the first time out we both feared that there was only one way to go after that! We set off quite early and, on the way, passed a lay-by at Crown Point that was going to feature later on Reg B – "Bet there's a control there," we both commented – we were not wrong! After completing the gruelling 4.6 mile calibration route we headed for the Diner where the green Rover of stalwart marshals Harry and Linda was already parked up.

We signed on – joined the dots for Reg A, worked out the speed changes – then had a natter with the other entrants while we waited for the 'off'. The Sunday morning 12-Cars are proving very popular and it was good to see another full entry and a great range of cars from Eric and Cheryl's 1950s A40, to Kevin and Gavin's more modern Peugeot 307.

Reg A started at the Diner and we headed west, past Knockholt, before heading south under the M25 and then crossing the A25 near Sundridge. The route continued south through Ide Hill, where we luckily didn't encounter the hoards of cyclists that Tom had mentioned at signing-on – but we did manage to find the sneakily positioned second timing control - phew! The route took us through Sevenoaks Weald, before passing under the A21 near Hildenborough and then across the Common at Shipbourne before coffee at Hadlow. We thought we had had a good run, finding all the controls with what we thought were good times – chatting with Eric and Cheryl at Coffee we were surprised to hear they had uncharacteristically missed the second control (it was on a 'Long Way Round' near Ide Hill).



Mike Helm & Colin Wake's '71 TR6 missed the last control, which cost them a win....

Reg B was compressed onto a very small piece of the map, John and Tom having done a great job of using nearly every bit of road between Hadlow and the finish at The Padwell Arms near Stone Street. The roads were great, with a couple of hairpins thrown in for good measure to keep the drivers on their toes (and add a grin, of course). We were pleased to find all the controls including



Colin and Caroline in a lay-by I had used when organising a previous run, Keith and TomW in the Crown Point lay-by we had spotted on the way to the start and, of course Harry and Linda, at the very last control at Bitchet Green, where I had manned a control on previous events. It does go to show how organising events, or helping to marshal can give you an edge when competing (here's the sales pitch we are always looking for volunteers to organise or marshal on events!).

2nd O/A for Peter & Craig's '72 Stag - a good day!

Time for a pint and a bite to eat at the pub while we waited for the results. Apart from being held up just before the control at Crown Point, we thought we had had a good day and everyone seemed to have enjoyed the route plus, of course, the weather had been very kind to us. Unfortunately, the gremlins got into the results system and, although poor old Tom slaved over a hot lap top the computer chips won the first round and issuing the results had to be postponed (this weekend AndyG was up at the HRCR Dinner & Dance, officiating in his *other* job as HRCR Clubman's Rally Championship Coordinator).

When Tom published the results later in the day - it's amazing what a bit of peace and quiet and a nice cup of tea (or was it gin?) can do! - we were very pleased to see that we had won, ahead of Peter and Craig in the Stag and Neil and Valerie in the Mini (a proper one). Looking through the results, many crews had some very impressive times but, for some it was a case of 'if only'. Had Neil and Valarie not taken a short cut and if Mike and Colin in the TR6 had not missed the very last control etc the results table would have looked very different.

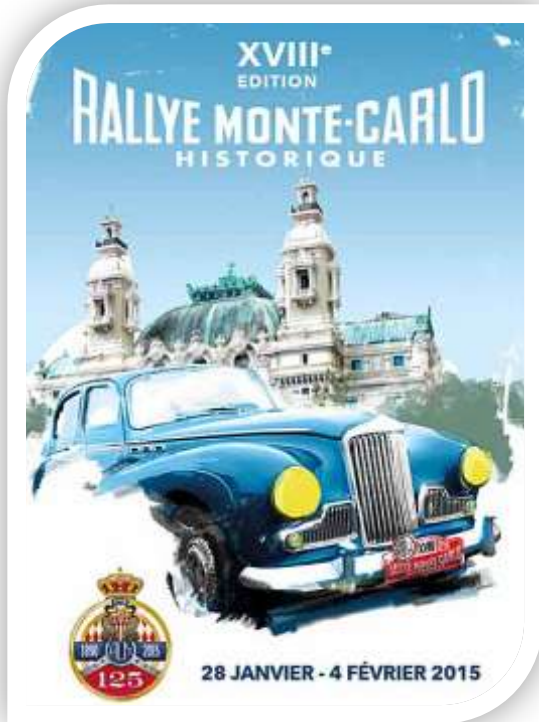
So, thanks to Tom and John for a very enjoyable day and, of course, all the Marshals who make these events possible. The next event will be put on the maps by Peter Boyce and is on Sunday 15th March, starting from the Roadhouse Café on the A20 near Lenham....

Graham Mayes

Results:

Pos	No	Driver / Navigator, Car	A1	A2	A3	A4	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	PCWD	Total
1	7	Graham Mayes & Simon Ingarfield, 1972 MGBGT	3e	25	5	3	18e	13	8	37	0	0	112
2	11	Peter Tolhurst & Craig McGurk, 1972 Triumph Stag	42e	11	26e	6	50e	6e	6e	23	14	0	184
3	1	Nell Webb & Valerie Hogg, 1969 Morris Mini Cooper	6e	25	6	1e	19e	13	5	100e	40	0	215
4	6	Kevln Potterton & Gavin McGuire, Peugeot 307	34	26	40e	77	38e	0	3e	8	2	0	228
5	10	Tim & Sue Adams, Vauxhall Astra	29e	57	39e	14	31e	12	49	1e	8	0	240
6	3	Ian Conway & David Laver, 1968 Rover P6	31e	19	60e	33	23e	44e	35e	1	20e	0	266
7	8	Tom & Simon Janvrin, 1985 Renault 4	6	69	67e	18	49e	5	54	4e	1e	0	273
8	5	Mike Helm & Colln Wake, 1971 Triumph TR6	2e	28	17	1	14e	14	3e	3	200x	0	282
9	12	Jeff Payne & Jon Stewart, 1973 Saab 96 V4	61e	7	27e	10e	53e	60e	19e	61e	1	0	299
10	9	John Walsham & Dave Clark, Honda Jazz	1e	64	41e	19e	47e	22	74	30	20	0	318
11	2	Eric Richardson & Cheryl Richardson, 1959 Austin A40 Farina	10e	200x	0x	68	23e	37	6	0	1	0	345
12	4	Archie Pelling & Phil Littimore, 1972 Austin Mini	34e	16	2	4e	59e	3e	43e	39e	200x	0	400

What a surprise package the Historique proved to be! A totally enthralling and exciting rally over five days but not like any British rally that you have ever been on before.



Over the last decade things have moved on in Europe. The ACM are the organizers of the Monte Carlo Grand Prix, the WRC World Rally Monte Carlo and the Historique. These are their only three events, no weekly 12 cars, pub nights and quizzes. Each of the three events is organized in the same uber-professional manner.

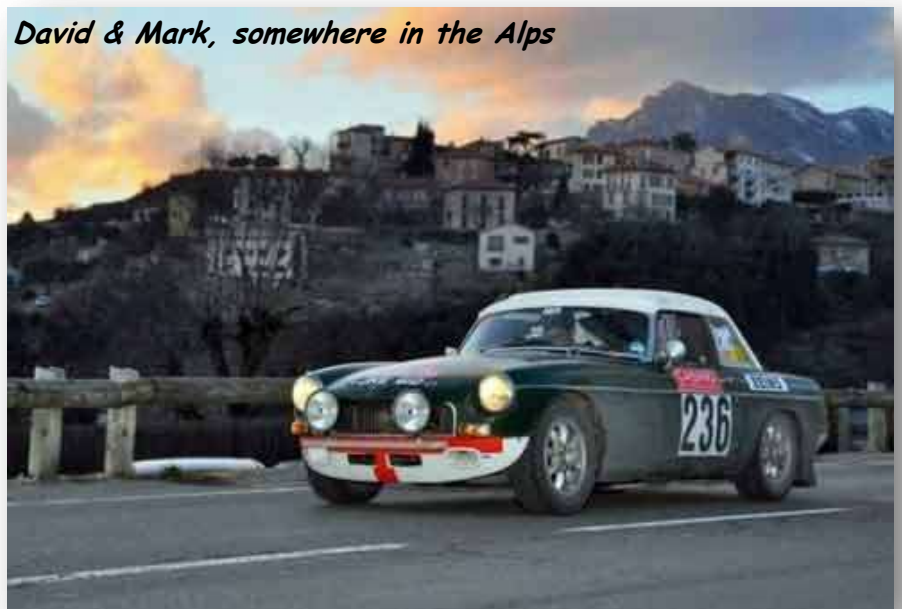
Even our humble historic cars are fitted with GPS tracking units and our every move is watched by satellites. There are no marshals on regularities and the normal is 10 timing points on each. At the end you pull forward alongside an ACM car and your record file is automatically downloaded to their computers.

Inside the cars every competitor is running with a sat nav and digital average speed devices - most have the route already downloaded onto the system via a file that they have bought before the event. All of this with the complete knowledge of the organizers. Of course we turned up without all of this and that is

where our chances ended! More importantly, I watched a standard of ice driving that I have never seen before. Renault Alpines, Porsche 911's and Opel Kadetts absolutely flying up the mountain cols in the hands of incredible drivers. The Europeans have all moved to newer machinery and our venerable MGB was simply outclassed on the ice (as was its driver). Even though I flew up those stages faster than I have ever driven on ice before I was more than a minute down on the times on particularly nasty roads. Sigh.... must try harder and practise more.

This year was a classic. Very cold weather, fresh snow and the most fantastic roads to drive. Valence and Burzet loops and the Monte Carlo night loop including La Bollene-Versubie, Sospel and the Turini all in the same rally! This is a memory that you can take to your grave with you. Yes, we survived it all, un-penalized on the road, every control visited on time and only penalty

David & Mark, somewhere in the Alps



2nd O/A Durand/Chol - 1977 Opel Kadett GT/E

points a teach timing control moving us inexorably South into 217th position out of 317 entries. 50 cars crashed out in a desperate attempt to make the times and so we beat only 50 other contestants. Yet we were proud of our efforts, a maximum commitment that we kept up day after day....And at the end?

A prize giving ball in black ties or ball gowns and over a thousand people in Monte Carlo's grandest ball room. Foie Gras and Champagne flowed and the silverware would fill the Casino's vaults. It is a world of glamour, high speed antics and support crews tending highly strung machinery. It is not rallying as we know it, but it is better for it and definitely an event not to be missed if you can squirrel away the entry fee.

Will we be back?

Not half!...

David Pengilly

(In case you missed it last month - <http://acm.mc/en/rallye-monte-carlo-historique/> and lots of good stuff on YouTube < https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nw_r7j4JDKs - Wow! - Ed)



**For the latest range of fashion accessories - have a look at
http://www.blackpalfrey.co.uk/?Club_Clothing**



Nice to hear from our American Correspondent, Keith Howard, who is back in Florida for a short break...

Hi Brian

Yesterday I went to watch the Daytona 500. It had warmed up to 26°C and was a lovely clear sunny day; unlike the last couple of occasions where it rained! There were a few minor crashes, most involving the wall.

As you probably know the track is a banked oval and the cars are going flat out at up to 200mph. The photo shows one of the bends in the last 15 laps. As you can see after the first few cars, the others are three across and at 200mph!! One of the other spectacles was when the cars came into the pit lane. Here the max. speed is 55mph and the smoking 'tires' were quite something and one tyre exploded due to the heat.

You might be able to add this to Highway - but it is not exactly a Regularity Run!!

Cheers

Keith



BLACKPALFREY MC 'REGULARITY RUN' SERIES - WINTER 2014-2015

These events are open to members of the **Blackpalfrey MC, the HRCR, the Weald MC, the MGCC and the TR Register**. The events are suitable for 'older' and 'newer' cars and are designed to be good fun and good navigation practice.

The seven events will be run as a **Championship Series for Blackpalfrey MC Members** : Points 12, 11, 10, etc. for each event and 10 points for each Organiser(s) – the best points total from five events will count towards the 'Series Awards'.

All events will be run on Sunday mornings and will finish at a pub for lunch. The dates are as below, which will take us up to the HUGHES Historic Rally in June 2015.

2014

~~Sunday 26th October~~ CoC: ~~Andy Gibson~~

~~Sunday 23rd November~~ CoC: ~~David Hughes~~

2015

~~Sunday 11th January~~ CoC: ~~Chris & Steven Winter~~

~~Sunday 15th February~~ CoC: ~~John Fowler & Tom Ash~~

Sunday 15th March CoC: Peter Boyce

Sunday 19th April CoC: A.N.Other

Sunday 17th May CoC: Jeff Payne & Jon Stewart (the Saab Boys)

All entrants will be eligible for Individual Event awards.....and there will be 'Series Awards' for: 1st, 2nd and 3rd O/A. Other event and Series Awards may be presented....

Details and entry-forms on www.blackpalfrey.co.uk or from Andy Gibson 01227 792740.....

We are looking forward to good entries for our **2013-2014 Winter Series**. As usual, we could do with a few **MARSHALS** so, if you are unable to enter but fancy coming out on a Sunday morning, seeing a nice collection of cars and having a natter in the pub afterwards, please contact Andy Gibson ☎01227 792740 / 07803 265279 a few days before each event.

Running through the Series, we will have a **MARSHAL'S AWARD** (1 point/event).



Some interesting 'Points' from the *Sunday Times Driving Magazine*:

Slow motion - I keep hearing talk of an 80mph speed limit, but if anything the limit should be lowered to 60mph. There would be fewer accidents, a reduction in fuel consumption and a more relaxed driving experience. Some states in America seem to manage OK with a 55mph limit. (*Any comments? - Ed*).

Fast Talk - The late John Davies said, "There are two types of dangerous drivers: those over 70 who travel under 20, and those under 20 who travel over 70."

Yellow Peril - If the new Hadecs3 speed cameras are painted yellow....law-breakers will create even more hazards by breaking sharply whenever a device is spotted.

Brush with the law - I note that Ed the Red plans to paint speed cameras. As the reason seems to be to stop us being caught unawares, is he planning to paint unmarked police vehicles the same shade of yellow?

Surface Tension - With the covert speed cameras on a stretch of 'smart' M25, perhaps the Highways Agency could now afford the tarmac to resurface the appalling road surface, which is a danger to all motorists (*No comment on the cameras, but I think the surface is generally quite good now - Ed*).

Out of sight - Am I the only one who finds the indicator lights on modern cars too small?....(*The problem is rather that too many drivers fail to use their indicators properly, or at all! - Ed*)

Weald MC - Winter 12 Car Series 2014-2015

The first event in the **Weald** (a consortium of local South East motor clubs, including Blackpalfrey, allowing all their members to easily compete in one another's 'grass roots' events such as 12-Car Rallies, Navigational Scatters, Autotests and Production Car Trials) **MC's 2014-2015 Rod Wray Series**, all run on **Friday evenings**, starts and finishes at Seal Chart, near Sevenoaks on **10th October**.

If you fancy trying rallying in the dark, these are great events to give it a try - good fun with a friendly competitive spirit. As with our Sunday morning events, entry lists have been good recently, so **get your entries in quickly** - it would be good to give some of the regular winners a run-for-their-money and **'novices' get all the route cards at the start**.

Enter as a Blackpalfrey member and get points for our Rally Championships....

Friday	10 October 2014	Borough 18
Friday	7 November 2014	Sevenoaks
Friday	5 December 2014	Croydon
Friday	16 January 2015	Blackpalfrey
Friday	20 February 2015	Eastbourne
Friday	13 March 2015	Bexley
Friday	10 April 2015	Guildford

Supplementary Regulations have been circulated to all BpMCK members.

What's On in Kent & the SE - Sent to all members 'underseparate cover'

For a full listing of motorsport events visit:

GoMotorsport.net

If you would like to be e-mailed regular What's On bulletins you can subscribe at:

<http://gomotorsportsoutheast.hosted.phplist.com/lists>

Send us **your ADVERT**. We'll **consider** anything
Keep it 'clean(ish)' and we'll probably print it!

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If any non-members (*especially if you can write! - Ed*) see HIGHWAY and would like to know more about the BpMCK and what we do these days, or would like to re-join or join, **the annual membership fee is still only £10 (£5 under for 25s) or £15 family membership per annum**. If you want to know more, John Fowler or any other Committee Member would be pleased to help.....have a look at www.blackpalfrey.co.uk for more details.

NEW MEMBERS may wish to note this..... HIGHWAY e-mail format: if you presently receive HIGHWAY in the post as a paper copy, you may like to try the e-mailed version – quicker *and* in colour (please contact John Fowler – jcfowler@btinternet.com who will be pleased to sort it for you). A couple of members, who receive HIGHWAY by e-mail have had problems with pictures/tables being misplaced on their copies which is *possibly* due to them having an ‘older’ version of MS Word. So, we’re now sending it as a pdf file – is it any better? Please let me know if you have any problems.....**thanks... Ed**

Note: some of the views expressed in HIGHWAY may not be those of 'the Club'

BLACKPALFREY MOTOR CLUB OF KENT LTD
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION to 31st March 2016

New / Renewal * (please delete as appropriate)

Please photocopy this form if you wish and add any comments about the Club.....we don't get a lot of 'feedback' so, any views are welcome.....

Full name (1):	
Full name (2)-(joint membership):	
Address:	Postcode:
Telephone:	Email:

I wish to apply/reapply* for membership of The Blackpalfrey Motor Club of Kent Limited.
 If elected I agree to abide by the rules of the Club.



Signed (1):		Date:	
.....		
Signed (2):		Date:	
.....		

My Road Car(s) is:..... My Competition Car(s) is:.....

I am interested in: Rallies / Tours / Autotests / Production Car Trials / Social Activities / Magazine / Anything else? *
please delete as applicable

Single membership subscription to 31 st March 2015 :	£10.00
Joint membership (resident at same address):	£15.00
Single membership – Student or under 25 years old	£ 5.00

Please send this form with a cheque (payable to Blackpalfrey MC of Kent) to the Membership Secretary:

John Fowler, 391 Green Lane, New Eltham, SE9 3TE (☎0208 857 7761)